

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
AKIHIRO SATO, ET AL.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: Unassigned	)	
(This is a divisional of Application No.	:	
09/973,839, filed October 11, 2001, allowed on	)	
April 7, 2003.)	:	
	)	
Filed: Concurrently Herewith	:	
	)	
For: SHEET TREATING APPARATUS,	:	July 8, 2003
METHOD OF MOUNTING SHEET	)	
TREATING APPARATUS, AND IMAGE	:	
FORMING APPARATUS	)	

**Mail Stop Patent Application**  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be amended in the following manner.

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

The present Amendment has been prepared in accordance with the Revised Format established by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, as permitted in the Pre-OG Notice entitled “Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted.”